LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ **A multi-use, needle-free** injector assembly having a proximal end and a distal end, the distal end having a distal end orifice, an injection piston located generally within an injector lumen, comprising:

(a) a removable cap generally distal to the distal end orifice, the cap further including a cap distal face and a cap proximal face; and

(b) an injection prevention component disposed generally proximal to the cap distal face and distal to the distal end orifice.

2. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 1, wherein the cap further includes a cap orifice extending therethrough, the cap orifice also being coincident with the injector lumen.

3. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 2, wherein the cap further includes a film disposed over the cap orifice.

4. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 3, wherein the film comprises at least one of a plastic, rubber, polymer, polyethylene, polytetrafloroethylene, polyurethane, polyolefin, polypropylene, and polysulfone material; or combination thereof.

5. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 2, wherein the injection prevention component further includes at least one of an orifice shield, a piston, and a latch.

6. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 5, wherein the cap further includes a film disposed over the cap orifice.

7. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 6, wherein the film comprises at least one of a plastic, rubber, polymer, polyethylene, polytetrafloroethylene, polyurethane, polyolefin, polypropylene, and polysulfone material; or combination thereof.

8. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 6, wherein the orifice shield is disposed generally distal to the distal end orifice.

9. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 6, wherein the orifice shield is disposed generally proximal to the cap proximal face.

10. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 6, wherein the orifice shield includes a generally flat surface adapted to partially or completely cover the distal end orifice.

11. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 6, wherein the orifice shield includes a generally flat surface adapted to block the distal end orifice.

12. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 6, wherein the orifice shield comprises a leaf spring.

13. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 6, wherein the orifice shield is detachably attached to a first side of the injector assembly.

14. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 6, wherein the orifice shield is adapted to cover the distal end orifice when the cap proximal face partially contacts the orifice shield.

15. (Original) The injector assembly of 14, wherein the orifice shield comprises a leaf spring.

16. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 15, wherein the orifice shield includes a generally flat surface adapted to generally block the distal end orifice.

17. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 6, wherein the piston further includes a lock pin.

18. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 17, wherein the lock pin protrudes into the injector lumen.

19. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 17, wherein the lock pin is adapted to interfere with the injection piston.

20. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 17, wherein the injection piston further comprises an injection piston recess adapted to detachably attach with the lock pin.

21. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 17, wherein the piston further comprises a rod disposed between the cap proximal face and the lock pin.

22. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 21, wherein the prevention component further comprises an orifice shield disposed distal to the distal end orifice.

23. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 21, wherein the film comprises at least one of a plastic, rubber, polymer, polyethylene, polytetrafloroethylene, polyurethane, polyolefin, polypropylene, and polysulfone material; or combination thereof.

24. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 6, wherein the latch is disposed at a proximal end of the injector lumen.

25. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 2, wherein the latch is adapted to disengageably engage with a proximal end of the injection piston.

26. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 25, wherein a rod is disposed between the cap proximal face and the injector lumen proximal end.

27. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 25, wherein the cap protective film comprises at least one of a plastic, rubber, polymer, polyethylene, polytetrafloroethylene, polyurethane, polyolefin, polypropylene, and polysulfone material; or combination thereof.

28. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ **A multi-use, needle-free** injector assembly having a proximal end and a distal end, the distal end having a distal end orifice, an injection piston located generally within an injection lumen, comprising:

(a) a removable cap generally distal to the distal end orifice, the cap further including a cap distal face and a cap proximal face; and

(b) a means for preventing the injection piston from moving from a locked position to a discharged position wherein said means are partially located distal to the distal end orifice.

29. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 28, wherein the means for preventing the injection piston from moving includes at least one of an orifice shield, a piston lock, and a latch.

30. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 29, wherein a film is disposed over a cap orifice.

31. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 30, wherein the film comprises at least one of a plastic, rubber, polymer, polyethylene, polytetrafloroethylene, polyurethane, polyolefin, polypropylene, and polysulfone material; or combination thereof.

32. (Original) The injector assembly of claim 31, wherein the cap proximal face is disconnectedly connected to the means for preventing the injection piston from moving.

33. (Original) A method of preventing the accidental injection of medication into a patient and reducing the risks of cross contamination during injections, comprising the steps of:

(a) loading a cap onto a distal end of an injector having a distal end orifice;

(b) disengaging a locking mechanism partially located distal to the distal end orifice to permit a stream of medication to exit the injector;

(c) removing the cap after injection ; and

(d) engaging the locking mechanism to prevent a discharge of the medication.